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HOUSE RESOLUTION 176  
By Cooper B

A RESOLUTION to express the sense of the House relative to smoking in the State Capitol and Legislative Plaza.

WHEREAS, medical research has conclusively proven that secondhand smoke is injurious to the health of non-smokers; and

WHEREAS, unlike the public buildings in many other states and at the federal level, the Tennessee State Capitol and Legislative Plaza are not smoke-free environments; and

WHEREAS, the constant presence of cigarette, cigar and pipe smoke in these public buildings is potentially hazardous to the health of legislators, staff, and constituents alike, especially those with extenuating medical conditions; and

WHEREAS, there is even evidence to suggest that many Tennessee citizens do not participate in the legislative process because of the threat that our smoke-filled rooms and halls pose to their health, which is, in some instances, fragile to begin with; and

WHEREAS, constituent participation is one of the cornerstones of the legislative process, and any behavior that discourages citizens' valuable input into government should be prohibited; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That it is the sense of the House of Representatives that members, staff, lobbyists, constituents and other visitors

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should refrain from smoking in the chambers and galleries of the House and the public areas of the second floor of the State Capitol and in the hearing rooms and public areas of the Legislative Plaza during the annual legislative session.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the text of this resolution be spread upon the House Journal.